

**WESTERN NEWS**

Libby MT 59923

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Superior Clipping Service

Glendive MT 406-377-6612

**ASK EPA !!****Questions and Answers****about Asbestos and EPA's Investigation**

Q: Is there an off road vehicle track being constructed at the Stimson Mill property?

A: Construction of a motor cross track was started in April 2004. EPA has asked that all work stop until current information on the area is reviewed and additional sampling data is gathered and analyzed. Data must confirm that the area is suitable for a dusty activity or a cleanup must be done before construction resumes.

The area was not previously an EPA priority because of its isolation. Since plans for the area include construction and eventual vehicular use (both dusty activities) and the area is to be used by kids, EPA will do a thorough sampling of the area. If contamination is present, EPA will conduct cleanup in 2005 concurrent with the nursery area.

Because the mill site has a known history of contamination problems it must be considered more carefully than other vacant or undeveloped lands in and around Libby where construction may occur. At the mill site there are several potential sources for asbestos contamination: buildings that contain vermiculite insulation and other forms of asbestos; trees from the mine area that were processed at the mill; the former tree nursery, etc.

EPA supports redevelopment at the former Stimson Lumber Mill. The Agency will work closely with community representatives to ensure that this can happen in a way that is protective of public health.

For more information call toll free:

Wendy Thoni at 1-866-457-2690 ext. 5037 or

EPA Information Center at 293-6194